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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/559,611	04/19/2006	Gilbert Ossbahr	82350	1507
26288	7590	09/29/2006	EXAMINER	
ALBIHNS STOCKHOLM AB BOX 5581, LINNEGATAN 2 SE-114 85 STOCKHOLM; SWEDEN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN			AMIRI, NAHID	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3679	

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/559,611	Applicant(s) OSSBAHR, GILBERT	
	Examiner Nahid Amiri	Art Unit 3679	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 December 20058.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 December 20058 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/02/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Abstract

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of the used of phrase which can be implied, such as “the invention constitutes of”, which should be avoided. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because (i.e.) locking elements of figures 1, 3, 9 and 10 are not labeled separately or properly (please see Notice of Draftsperson’s Patent Drawing Review). Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsperson outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, **the stop screws extending from the projection of claim 4, lines 1-2; and wedges extending from the projection of claim 5, lines 1-2** must be shown or the features canceled from the claims. Figures 2, 3, 5, 9, and 10 show multiple views which are not labeled separately. Figures 11 and 12, it is not proper to show the reference character 25 as a single line for whatever element applicant is trying to show. Figures 2, 9, and 10 each improperly show variations in same view, e.g. bolts 3 or bolts 9. No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must

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be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 objected to because of the following informalities: In line 1, before "System" should add --A system--. Same applies to line 1 of the claims 2-7.

Claim 1, line 4, --each-- should be inserted before "respective" and line 10, "respective" should be deleted.

Claim 3, line 2, "respective" should be changed to "a respective".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claims 1-7, it should be noted that the preamble of claim 1 sets forth only a system subcombination, with intended use of for detachable joining of beams. As initially set forth, the elements of the combination are not positively included in the claims. However, claim

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1, line 3, positively includes the elements of the combination (e.g., the beams). Further, note claim 7 which seeks to further define the beams. Accordingly, it is unclear as to whether the combination or subcombination is being claimed. For this Office action, it is presumed that only the subcombination is being claimed.

Further with respect to claim 1, the “and/or” recitation bridging lines 1 and 2 improperly sets forth a narrow recitation within a broader recitation. In particular, it should be noted that squares are rectangles.

Furthermore, lines 2-3, the recitation of “two or more fixing plates mounted in pairs on opposite sides of the beam” conflicts with the recitation of lines 9-10, “fixing plates which are organized to bear on each other along the respective second surface”. In particular, if the fixing plates are on opposite sides from each other, how can their second respective surfaces bear on each other at the same time? As a result of this ambiguity, the metes and bounds of the claims cannot be properly ascertained and no act rejection can be presented since any such rejection would require undue speculation as to the meaning of the claims.

Claim 3, there is no antecedent basis for “the fixing plate”, line 1; and “the plate”, line 2. Note that claim 1 sets forth plural plates, not one.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The prior art of record US Patent No. 4,901,970 Moss et al.; US Patent No. 6,786,302 B2 Liew et al.; US Patent No. 1,835,338 Rossman; US Patent No. 6,425,562 B1 Knudson; US Patent No. Re. 26,011 Girard; US Patent No. 823,340 Lindgren; US Patent No. 1,297,331 Bolotoff; US Patent No. 6,298,629 B1 Ador; US Patent No. 6,004,063 Adams, Sr. US Patent No. 4,566,813 Johnston; US Patent No. 6,283,425 B1 Lijevik; US Patent No. 1,195,889 Willeford; and Pub. No. EP 0833064 A2 Festo; are cited to show a system for connecting two or more members together.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nahid Amiri whose telephone number is (571) 272-8113. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Nahid Amiri
Examiner
Art Unit 3679
August 09, 2006



DANIEL P. STODOLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600